IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Inventors:

Yasushi SUGAWARA, et al.

Prior Art Unit 1745

Appln. P

10/716,408

Prior Examiner C. Chaney

Filed:

November 20, 2003

FEB 0 2 2004

POLYMER ELECTROLYTE FUEL CELL AND PREPARATION METHOD FOR POLYMER ELECTROLYTE FUEL CELL

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to Rules 56 and 99, Applicants hereby call the attention of the -Patent Office to the art listed on the attached Form PTO 1449. All of these references except for US '173 and US '965 were cited in a Japanese Office Action dated December 24, 2003 or another Japanese Office Action dated July 29, 2003 (English translations attached). US '173 corresponds to JP '190 and US '965 corresponds to JP '993.

Applicants present this art so that the Patent Office may, in the first instance, determine any relevancy thereof to the presently claimed invention, see Beckman Instruments, Inc. v. Chemtronics, Inc., 439 F.2d 1369, 1380, 165 USPQ 355, 364 (5th Cir. 1970). Also see Patent Office Rules 104 and 106. Applicants respectfully request that this art be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application and made of record herein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue herefrom.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: February 2, 2004

James E. Ledbetter

Registration No. 28,732

JEL/spp

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FORM PT 0-1449 U.S. Department of Commerce (Rev. 4/92) Patent and Trademark Office ATTY, DOCKET NO. APPLICATION SERIAL NO. JEL30682B 10/716,408 INCORMATION DISCLOSURE **APPLICANT** Yasushi SUGAWARA, et al. (Use several heets if necessary) FILING DATE November 20, 2003 PRIOR GROUP FEB 0 2 2004 1745 **U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS** PADEMA EXAMINER IF APPROPATETE NAME SUBCLASS DOCUMENT NUMBER DATE CLASS 5 7 2 3 7 3 03/1998 Fukuoka et al. 0 6 9 6 5 08/2000 6 1 Hirano et al. YES NO 3 0 7 8 12/1993 JP **Abstract** 5 3 2 5 6 09/1994 JP **Abstract** 6 7 5 6 2 7 **Abstract** 6 9 5 2 8 10/1994 JP 6 2 5 7 2 9 JP **Abstract** 9 10/1994 6 3 3 3 5 7 4 12/1994 JP **Abstract Abstract** 7 1 3 4 9 9 6 05/1995 JP 2 JP **Abstract** 7 7 6 06/1995 1 4 1 **Abstract** 8 1 8 0 8 8 7 07/1996 JP 2 9 0 JP **Abstract** 8 6 4 1 10/1996 9 2 6 5 9 9 3 10/1997 JP **Abstract**

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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Japanese Office Action dated July 29, 2003 with partial English translation.

Japanese Office Action dated December 24, 2003 with partial English translation.

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation is considered, draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Abstract